



<b>RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT</b>	Application #	10/695,994
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S I R:

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated November 21, 2005, Applicants herein traverse in part the election requirement with regard to the antibodies of the present invention which relate to a series of interrelated early developing liver proteins which are all involved in tumor development in the liver and gut. Moreover, the main antibodies of the present invention were not reflected in the Groups set forth by the Examiner, and thus the Examiner seems to have overlooked one of the key features of the invention. Accordingly, as described further below, Applicants traverse the Restriction Requirement with regard to antibodies for the elf, praja-1 and pk proteins which should all be searched in conjunction with the present application.

In short, the present invention relates to a series of interrelated peptides and proteins isolated during early liver development as well as antibodies which recognize these proteins which can be used in methods of diagnosing and/or treating liver disease and cancers of the liver and gut. As has been shown in studies regarding these proteins, deviations in the amount of any of these proteins can signify a predilection to develop either gastrointestinal cancer or hepatocellular cancer, and indeed these proteins which emerge at related stages in the developing embryo are related and act together to ensure proper development of the liver and gut.